



Informal Fellowship - 9:00 a.m.
Sunday School Classes - 9:30a.m.
Worship Service - 10:30 a.m.
(Online at www.mgmennonite.org)



Maple Grove
Newsletter

*Disciples of Jesus,
Revealing His Kingdom
Through Love, Spiritual Growth,
and Service Together*

Newsletter dated
December 5, 2025

Second Sunday of Advent December 7, 2025



Message:	Myrrl Byler
Worship Leader:	Cathy Arble
Song Leader:	Renee Koshmider
Offertory:	Sue Nisly
Greeters:	Alta Bates & Arrie Ledsome

GATHERING

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Opening Song

VT #57 Holy Spirit, Come with Power

Opening Prayer

Call to Worship

Leader: God in our desert, You are our peace in all places.

People: Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.

Leader: Thus says the Lord God: "Come from the four winds, O breath,
and breathe upon these slain, that they may live."

People: Can these dry bones live?

Leader: The wind of God moves among these dry bones.
Stand and live!

(Everyone stand)

People: We are the people of God, a vast multitude, filled with God's Spirit.

Leader: "I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live.
I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the Lord,
have spoken and will act," says the Lord.

**All: You are the only source of true life, O God. You breathe new life into our dry bones
and fill us with Your peace. We stand before You,
ready to enter Your story and be amazed.**

Lighting of Advent Candle

Advent Song – Worship Team

Hope is a Candle (Verse 2)

Candle Litany

Reader: We have been wandering in the dark, our spirits dry and cracked from conflict,
aching for peace to pour into the crevices to revive us.

**All: Come, Peace of the world. Come amaze us.
May Your peace fill the cracks in our dry, brittle bones.
Bind us together, strengthen and unite us,
that we might dance!**

PRAISING

Praise Songs

HWB #172 *O Come, O Come, Immanuel*
HWB #211 *Lo, How a Rose e'er Blooming*

Offering – General Fund

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Scripture Reading

Ezekiel 37:1-14 (CEB)

Message

Be amazed: Peace in the Valley of Bones

RESPONDING

Song of Response

VT #737 *Breathe on Me, Breath of God*

Congregational Sharing/Prayer

SENDING

Sending Song

VT #838 *The Peace of the Earth Be with You*

Benediction/Blessing

Postlude

PERMISSION TO PHOTOCOPY

Subscribers to Leader are welcome to photocopy and adapt worship materials.

Songs used with permission: CCLI 465314

HWB- Hymnal Worship Book (blue)

STJ-Sing the Journey (green)

TMH – The Mennonite Hymnal (red)

STS-Sing the Story (purple)

VT-Voices Together (purple)



November 30 – Be Amazed: Hope in the Furnace (First Sunday of Advent)

December 7 – Be Amazed: Peace in the Valley of the Bones
(Second Sunday of Advent)

December 14 – Be Amazed: Joy in the Desert (Third Sunday of Advent)

December 21 – Be Amazed: Love Comes Down (Fourth Sunday of Advent)

December 24 Christmas Eve Service – 5:30pm

December 28 Be Amazed: God Among Us (Sunday after Christmas)

January 4 Be Amazed: Come and See (Epiphany)



- Thurs. – Dec. 11 - Maple Grove's night to supply volunteers @ Thrift Shoppe – 6-8pm
- Sun. – Dec. 21 - Education Sunday (non-designated funds go to Education Fund)
- Wed. – Dec. 24 - Christmas Eve Service – 5:30pm

Don't forget your Secret Prayer Sister over the holidays!



The Ministry of Outreach would like to thank those who participated in the two Christmas giving projects over the last few weeks. The gifts and gift cards for Lighthouse Ministries in Canton and Lake Township's Community Christmas are greatly appreciated.



✝ Pray for Clara Sommers who is having foot surgery on Wednesday.

✝ Pray for Betty Miller who is recovering from shoulder surgery.

✝ Pray for others with health concerns: Miriam Miller; Mary Hilmer's brother Harold Yoder; Alta Bates' sister Leona; Mike Kress with cancer; Nancy Beachy's friend's 13-year-old grandson who had a cancerous brain tumor removed; and Kevin Graber's brother Jerry recovering from surgery.

✝ Pray for the Mykhaylyuchenko family - Vlad, Krystyna, Vlad and Emilia, and the Khodyrieva family - Ludmila, Diana and Anastasia.

✝ Pray for Alexis Deuzoumbé as he continues nursing school and pray for his immigration process.

✝ Pray for the families and most vulnerable who suffer from war and violence in our world. For those in Sudan, Ukraine, Myanmar, and especially remember the people of Gaza whose suffering is difficult to even comprehend--may our prayers help them to know they are not forgotten.



Offering on Sunday, November 30

Attendance: 83

General Fund \$ 4,110.00

Total Offering \$ 4,110.00

A Solstice/Memory Tree is displayed in front of the library at the church. The tree includes names of loved ones who have passed away as a way of honoring them. These stars were put on the tree last year and a list of those names is beside the tree. If you would like a name added to the tree of someone who passed away, please write their name on a star ornament and hang it on the tree. The stars are in a basket beside the tree. Then add their name to the list of names. The loved ones will be acknowledged during the December 21st worship service which is Winter Solstice.

The second Thursday of each month is Maple Grove's turn to supply volunteers at the Hartville Thrift Shoppe. Ministry of Outreach is encouraging volunteers to help with this. People of all ages are WELCOME on Thursday, December 11, from 6-8pm. Park around back, come in through the Volunteer door and ask for Denise when you arrive. If you have any questions, please contact Julie Yoder.

Lighthouse Ministries Holiday Match

As we close out the year, Lighthouse Ministries invites you to invest in the bright futures of youth in our community! This giving season, your generosity can make twice the impact! From now through December 31st, every gift will be matched up to \$21,000, helping create safe, high-quality, and holistic opportunities for youth in Southeast Canton. You can donate easily at www.cantonlighthouse.org/give or by mailing a check to Lighthouse Ministries at 1931 3rd St SE, Canton, OH 44707.

As you shop for the holidays, don't forget to save your Acme grocery receipts.

Acme will give a percentage of the cash back amount printed on the bottom of each receipt to FISH. The program runs through February 15, 2026. A box is available under the mailboxes for the receipts – thanks for your support of this project!

Ongoing News @ Maple Grove

Coffee Time & Informal Fellowship @ Church – Sundays @ 9am

Join us Sunday mornings before Sunday School – Everyone is welcome!

If you would like to help with supplying donuts and/or baked goods, please get in touch with Barb Dutcher (for baked goods) or Perry Miller (for donuts). Two dozen donuts and homemade or store-bought baked goods are needed at the church by 9am on Sunday mornings. Thanks for your help!

Encouragement Cards - There are encouragement cards placed in every pew so that as the Spirit lays someone on your heart, you can share your thoughts and encouraging words with them. You may place the cards in their mailbox or give directly to them. Extra cards are on the literature rack.

Receiving of the offering

An offering basket is available at the back of the sanctuary for you to place your offering before the service begins. The basket will be brought to the front of the sanctuary during the offertory music to be blessed during the offering prayer.

You may also place your offering in the basket after the service. Thank you!



Offering Envelope Numbers

In order to receive a year-end statement of your offerings, you must have an offering number. To obtain an offering number, please contact Kami Sommers. The offering envelopes are designed so you can designate your offering to specific funds. If funds are not designated on the envelope, they are included in the General Fund with the exception of the 3rd Sunday of each month, which is Education Sunday and non-designated funds go to the Education Fund.

To include something in the newsletter, please email Cindy Fleming at secretary@maplegrovemennonite.org by Wednesday each week – thank you!

Church Information: 2121 Smith Kramer St. NE, Hartville, OH 44632 Phone: 330-877-2400

Website: www.mgmennonite.org

Facebook – Maple Grove Mennonite Church Group

(send updates to Jill Liechty or Julie Yoder)

Myrrl Byler: Pastor (myrrl.byler@gmail.com)

- Office Hours: **Monday-Friday 8am-noon**

**Myrrl can be contacted at any time during the week by text, phone or email.*

Cindy Fleming: Church Secretary (Secretary@maplegrovemennonite.org)

- Office Hours: **Monday-Tuesday & Thursday-Friday – 8am-Noon**

Ministry of Congregational Care: Paul Bontrager, Harold Beachy, Jill Liechty, Myron Weaver

Prayer Chain: Kami Sommers

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES AVAILABLE

Adult Classes

Women's Class	Room 1-Education Side
Men's Class	Room 9-Hallway
Mixed Intergenerational Class	Room 2-Education Side
Mixed 30's-40's Class	Basement

Children/Youth/Young Adult Classes

Children's Ministry (up to 6 th Grade)	Rooms 7-8
Youth (Grades 7-12)	Rooms 3-4
Post-High/Young Adults	Fellowship Hall